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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,726	06/25/2003	Steven G. Henry	200206943-1	9135

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EXAMINER

TRAN, TUYETLIEN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2179

DATE MAILED: 11/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,726

Applicant(s)

HENRY ET AL.

Examiner

TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/25/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. The original claims 1-32 are pending. The examination results are as follows.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The examiner has considered the documents listed in forms PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements (IDSs) received on 06/25/2003 (see the attached forms PTO-1449).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

As to claim 26, a "computer-usable media" is being recited; however, as disclosed by the specification, a computer-usable media is not taught to limit to physical items.

Claims 27-29 are rejected as incorporating the deficiencies of a claim 26 upon which it depends.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-6, 10, 18-22, 26-29, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hida et al. (Patent No. US 6,901,555 B2, hereinafter Hida).

As to claims 1, 18, and 26, Hida teaches:

A computer-usable media containing computer-readable instructions adapted to cause a digital transmitter to perform a method (e.g., Fig. 13), comprising:

a graphical map having a plurality of interconnected icons (e.g., organization chart as shown in Fig. 3), wherein a size of each of the icons varies according to the distance of the respective icon from a central region of the display (e.g., nodes have different sizes according to the distance from the central node 102, see Fig. 3; note that nodes are defined as icons, see col. 5, lines 8-10).

As to claim 32, Hida teaches:

A display for a digital transmitter (e.g., Fig. 13) comprising:

means for displaying elements of the display as interconnected icons of a graphical map (e.g., the Hyperbolic geometry that shows organization chart on the display as shown in Fig. 3);

means for varying a size of the icons according to their distance from a central region of the display (e.g., nodes have different sizes according to the distance from the central node 102, see Fig. 3; note that nodes are clickable in col. 5, lines 8-10);

means for displaying one or more icons in the central region (e.g., the central-displayed node 102 is larger than nodes near edges, see Fig. 3) and enlarging the one or more icons when the one or more icons correspond to a current location within the graphical map (e.g., see Fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 8-10); and

means for reducing the size of the one or more icons and removing the one or more icons from the central region when the one or more icons no longer correspond to the current location within the graphical map (e.g., icon or node 100 is reduced in size and moved to the right edge of the map, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

As to claim 2, Hida further teaches wherein the icons are larger in the central region and smaller near edges of the display (e.g., the central-displayed node 102 is larger than nodes near edges, see Fig. 3).

As to claim 3, Hida further teaches wherein the icons in the central region correspond to a current location within the graphical map (e.g., see Fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 8-10).

As to claim 4, Hida further teaches wherein one or more of the icons is a functional icon that when selected causes the digital transmitter to perform a task (i.e., clicking on a node causes the node to be centered vertically, see col. 5, lines 8-10).

As to claim 5, Hida further teaches wherein one or more of the icons is movable from one location of the graphical map to another location of the graphical map for

modifying the graphical map (e.g., node 100 moves toward the edges, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

As to claim 6, Hida further teaches wherein the graphical map is a hierarchical map and the icons correspond to different hierarchical levels (Fig. 3).

As to claims 19 and 27, Hida teaches further comprising when one or more icons correspond to a current location within the graphical map (e.g., see Fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 8-10), displaying the one or more icons in the central region and enlarging the one or more icons (e.g., the central-displayed node 102 is larger than nodes near edges, see Fig. 3).

As to claim 10, Hida further teaches wherein the graphical map is a hierarchical menu for the digital transmitter and the icons correspond to different hierarchical levels of the menu (see Fig. 3; note that the nodes are clickable, see col. 5, lines 8-10).

As to claims 20 and 28, Hida teaches further comprising when one or more icons no longer correspond to the current location within the graphical map, reducing the size of the one or more icons and removing the one or more icons from the central region (e.g., icon or node 100 is reduced in size and moved to the right edge of the map, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

As to claims 21 and 29, Hida further teaches wherein removing the one or more icons from the central region comprises moving the one or more icons from the central region toward an edge of the display (e.g., icon or node 100 is moved to the right edge of the map, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

As to claim 22, Hida further teaches wherein displaying elements of a display of the digital transmitter as interconnected icons of a graphical map comprises locating the icons at different hierarchical levels of the graphical map (e.g., node or icon are located in hierarchical levels, see Fig. 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 7-9, 11-17, 23-25, and 30-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hida in view of Nomura (Patent No US 6,421,509 B1, hereinafter Nomura).

As to claim 11, Hida teaches:

A digital transmitter (e.g., machine 200 as shown in Fig. 13) comprising:

a user interface having a display (e.g., item 252 on display 208 as shown in Fig.

13);

wherein the display (e.g., display 208 in Fig. 13) comprises a graphical map having a plurality of interconnected icons (e.g., organization chart as shown in Fig. 3); and

wherein a size of each of the icons varies according to the distance of the respective icon from a central region of the display (e.g., nodes have different sizes according to the distance from the central node 102, see Fig. 3; note that nodes are defined as icons, see col. 5, lines 8-10).

However, Hida fails to teach a scanner adapted to convert printed material into digital data. Nomura, though, teaches a digital transmitter (Fig. 3) having a graphical map having a plurality of icons (e.g., job list as shown on the left side of interface 802b, see Fig. 12) that comprises a scanner adapted to convert printed material into digital data (e.g., col. 7, lines 54-64).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Hida and Nomura before him at the time the invention was made to modify the hyperbolic tree visualization menu as taught by Hida and to apply to the digital transmitter having a display that is limited in size as taught by Nomura to focus on icons or nodes in the center of the display, with nodes distant from the icons or nodes in the center compressed into space approaching the rim in a manner that preserves some context about the position of the nodes in the center, relative to the rest of the hierarchy (see Hida col. 1, lines 55-59).

As to claim 30, Hida teaches

A digital transmitter (e.g., machine 200 as shown in Fig. 13) comprising:

a user interface having a display (e.g., item 252 on display 208 as shown in Fig. 13); and

a controller (e.g., CPU 202 in Fig. 13) adapted to cause the display to perform a method, the method comprising:

displaying elements of the display as interconnected icons of a graphical map (e.g., organization chart as shown in Fig. 3);

varying a size of the icons according to their distance from a central region of the display (e.g., nodes have different sizes according to the distance from the central node 102, see Fig. 3; note that nodes are defined as icons, see col. 5, lines 8-10);

when one or more icons correspond to a current location within the graphical map (e.g., see Fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 8-10), displaying the one or more icons in the central region and enlarging the one or more icons (e.g., the central-displayed node 102 is larger than nodes near edges, see Fig. 3); and

when the one or more icons no longer correspond to the current location within the graphical map, reducing the size of the one or more icons and removing the one or more icons from the central region (e.g., icon or node 100 is reduced in size and moved to the right edge of the map, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

However, Hida fails to expressly teach that the digital transmitter comprising:

a scanner adapted to convert printed material into digital data;

a controller connected to the scanner for receiving the digital data, the controller adapted to transmit the digital data to one or more destination addresses selected by a user of the digital transmitter.

Nomura, though, teaches:

a digital transmitter (Fig. 3) comprising:

a scanner adapted to convert printed material into digital data (e.g., col. 7, lines 54-64);

a controller connected to the scanner for receiving the digital data (e.g., machine control board 200 and main image processing board 400 as shown in Fig. 2), the controller adapted to transmit the digital data to one or more destination addresses selected by a user of the digital transmitter (e.g., IP address of devices 2a-2c and 3-5), the controller further adapted to cause the display to perform a method, the method comprising:

displaying elements of the display as icons of a graphical map (e.g., job list as shown on the left side of interface 802b, see Fig. 12);

Therefore, combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 7, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 1 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach that the display is touch-sensitive. Nomura, though, teaches the display is touch-sensitive (e.g., LCD 104 as seen in Fig. 2 and text from col. 14, lines 33-44). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 8, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 1 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach an indicator for displaying historical information about the map. Nomura, though, teaches an indicator for displaying historical information about the map (e.g., 'JOB QUEUE' button allows historical

information about the job map, see Fig. 15). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 9, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 1 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach that the icons correspond to at least one of a folder of a database, a data file of a database, and a destination address for receiving data from the digital transmitter. Nomura, though, teaches that the icons correspond to at least one of a folder of a database, a data file of a database (e.g., the folders and files to be printed in the print jobs map in Fig. 12), and a destination address for receiving data from the digital transmitter (e.g., fax number '0123456789' as shown in Fig. 13). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 12, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 11 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 11 above. Hida further teaches wherein the icons are larger in the central region and smaller near edges of the display (e.g., the central-displayed node 102 is larger than nodes near edges, see Fig. 3).

As to claim 13, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 12 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 12 above. Hida further teaches wherein the icons in the central region correspond to a current location within the graphical map (e.g., see Fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 8-10).

As to claim 14, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 11 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 11 above. Hida further teaches wherein one or more of the icons is movable from one location of the graphical map to another location of the graphical map for modifying the graphical map (e.g., node 100 moves toward the edges, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

As to claim 15, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 11 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 11 above. Hida further teaches wherein the graphical map is a hierarchical map and the icons correspond to different hierarchical levels (Fig. 3).

As to claim 16, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 11 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 11 above. Nomura further teaches wherein one or more of the icons corresponds to a destination address and selecting the one or more of the icons causes the digital transmitter to send the digital data to the destination address (e.g., fax number '0123456789' as shown in Fig. 13). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 17, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 11 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 11 above. Nomura further teaches wherein one or more of the icons corresponds to a data file that contains the digital data (e.g., the folders and files to be printed in the print jobs map in Fig. 12). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 23, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 18 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 18 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach modifying the graphical map by disconnecting one of the icons from one part of the map and connecting that icon to another part of the map. Nomura, though, teaches modifying the graphical map by disconnecting one of the icons from one part of the map and connecting that icon to another part of the map (e.g., job can be moved up and down to set priority, see Fig. 13). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 24, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 18 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 18 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach that modifying the graphical map by adding a new icon to the map. Nomura, though, teaches modifying the graphical map by adding a new icon to the map (e.g., a new job icon is added to the job map, see Fig. 11 and Fig. 12). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 25, Hida teaches the limitation of claim 18 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 18 above. However, Hida fails to expressly teach sending digital data corresponding to printed material scanned into the digital transmitter to one or more destination addresses in response to selecting one of the icons. Nomura, though, teaches sending digital data corresponding to printed material scanned into the digital transmitter (e.g., paper documents can be scanned and converted into digital data, see Fig. 18) to one or more destination addresses in response to selecting one of the icons (e.g., digital data

can be sent to email address or fax number, see fig. 13). Thus combining Hida and Nomura would meet the claimed limitation for the same reason as discussed with respect to claim 11 above.

As to claim 31, Hida and Nomura teach the limitation of claim 30 for the reasons as discussed with respect to claim 30 above. Hida further teaches wherein, in the method, removing the one or more icons from the central region comprises moving the one or more icons from the central region toward a edge of the display (e.g., node 100 moves toward the edges, see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar graphical map having a plurality of icons wherein the selected icon are enlarged in size.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-270-1033. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday: 7:30 - 5:00, off on alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

T.T
11/02/2006

Lien Tran
Examiner
Art Unit 2179

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER